P. O. Box 3883
Florence, S. C. 29502
September 10, 1982

TO THE EDITOR:

Based on its commitment to full funding for public education and to equal educational opportunity for all Americans, The American Association of University Women - Florence Branch strongly opposes Tuition Tax Credits at all educational levels. President Reagan has proposed that Tuition Tax Credits be enacted for the elementary and secondary levels. His proposal, S. 2673 in the Senate and H.R. 6701 in the House should be opposed by all thinking persons.

It is clear that public education funding will be cut in amounts equal to that spent on TTCs. The total cost of the proposal is estimated by reliable sources at $4.5 Billion over the first three years of the program, although the administration estimate is $2.2 Billion.

This large expenditure would increase the federal deficit and consume funds which might otherwise be available for public education. Administration officials have stated that tuition tax credits will take monies directly away from federal aid to public education.

The tuition tax credit proposal violates the Constitutional principle of the separation of church and state by making religious schools or parishes the major beneficiaries of public assistance. This proposal does nothing to improve the quality of educational services in either public or private schools. The federal government will forego billions of dollars of revenue and the American society will receive nothing in return.

Please contact our members of congress and urge opposition to Tuition Tax Credits.

Sincerely,

Melba Sprague, President
American Associationoof University Women